

Board of Education

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING

Date and Time

Tuesday, March 10, 2026
at 9:30 A.M

Location

The SBJC Ed Center
696 Route 46 West, Teterboro, NJ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NJ OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Business Administrator-Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the following, announcing time and place thereof, agenda, etc.:

North Jersey Media Group

Notice of this meeting has been posted in the lobby of the Board of Education Office and at the South Bergen Jointure Commission Public Schools. This is an official meeting of the Board of Education/South Bergen Jointure Commission.

Meeting opened at **9:32 am.**

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak

Members Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko,

Also Present: Ms. S. Cucciniello, Mr S. Miller

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Shane Miller, in Dr. Kuchar's absence, went over the current distinct status and upcoming events. Ms. Cucciniello presented an overview of the 2026-2027 budget and questions were asked by the Board regarding the projections for the next school year. The finance committee agreed to address the issues brought up and make revisions as necessary. The Board will have to meet again to approve any changes if made or recommended by the finance committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Dr. Frank D'Amico
Seconded: Mr. John Hurley

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of January 27, 2026 be approved.

ACTION TAKEN FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS**2. FINANCE REPORT**

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile
 Seconded: Dr. Maria Poidomani

2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved (*Attachments 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f*).

2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary's Report as of December 31st, 2025 and approves "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of December 31st, 2025 the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (Appropriations sections), did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriations balances reflected on the report and the advice of districts officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year (*Attachment 2b*).

2c. The Board accepts the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of December 2025. (*Attachment 2c*)

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of December 31, 2025, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a)."

2e. The January and February bills list below are approved (*lists attached*):

Bills Payable	\$4,615,388.011
Payroll Transfers	\$2,184,323.255
Cafeteria Checks	\$30,191.82
Total	\$6,829,903.08

2f. Motion to approve the transfers for the month of December 2025. (*Attachment 2f*)

2g. BE IT RESOLVED that the the South Bergen Jointure Commission hereby approves the preliminary* 2026- 2027 budget as follows: (*Attachment 2g*)*

Current General Expense (Fund 11)	\$71,979,244
Total Expenditures/Appropriations	\$71,979,244

*Budget is preliminary for presentation to the County, we will resubmit a final Budget at the April meeting. No action or commitments will be made from the Preliminary Budget approved in March.

2h. Motion to approve \$77,200 as the maximum travel budget for the 2026-2027 school year. This amount includes reimbursements for conferences, professional development workshops, regular school travel, meals and mileage for conferences / workshops, as well as any other associated costs for school related travel events. The year to date (to January 2026) travel expenditures for the 2025-2026 school year are \$45,754.

2i. Motion to approve the following professional workshops and the reimbursement costs of the workshops.

Name	Workshop	Workshop Provider	Date(s)	Cost
Auerbach, Heather	STS Conference	STS of NJ	3/25/26 -3/27/26	\$714.00 + meals + travel
Catanzaro, Barbara	PESI Rehab - The Vision Connection	PESI	3/5/26	\$199.99

2j. Motion to approve the following list of field trips.

Field Trip Date	Destination	Teacher(s)	Cost of Trip	Est. Cost of Trans.	Total Cost of Trip for SBJC
3/11/26	Health Barn	McCormick/Winand/Weiss	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$360.00
3/25/26	Health Barn	Brigliadoro/Barton/Weiss	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$360.00
3/27/26	Health Barn	Tully/Sheridan/Lupica	\$325.00	\$0.00	\$325.00
1/30/26	Garden State Plaza	Tully/Kelly	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2/20/26	Paramus Park Mall	Tully	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2/6/26	Maywood Post Office	Volpe	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

2k. Motion to approve the following professional workshops and the reimbursement costs of the workshops.

Name	Workshop	Workshop Provider	Date(s)	Cost
Rake, Lorraine	Annual Women's Leadership Conference: Leading with Vision, Voice and Value	NJPSAFEA	3/9/26 - 3/10/26	\$499.00+ \$297.00 Lodging + meals + travel

ACTION TAKEN FOR 2. FINANCE

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nays: Dr. S. Yurchak (2g only)

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

3. PERSONNEL

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
 Seconded: Ms. Toni Violetti

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that in compliance with Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 and in accordance with the State of New Jersey Department of Education memorandum dated October 29, 1986 that all new personnel shall be considered to be provisionally hired: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to comply with State Department directives concerning the State and Federal criminal history background checks of these employees and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said new personnel shall be considered provisionally hired until such time as the Department of Education has indicated that they have completed the criminal history background checks of prospective employees and that said employees have satisfied the requirements of Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 at which time said employees shall no longer be provisional; the Business Administrator shall be hereby directed to employ personnel and to take such other personnel actions as indicated.

All appointments upon recommendation of the Superintendent are on an emergent basis, pending completion of a criminal history background check. In addition, all appointments are contingent upon the employee signing a contract in accordance with law and the receipt of favorable reference responses. All aide appointments are contingent upon the employee being available for employment for the month of July 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026. All employees are approved to be paid additional compensation for the Clubs and Activities Program, Home Programming and Parent Training Home Program, office support and Home Instruction on an as-needed basis.

3a. Motion to approve the attached additional pay for services rendered as indicated. (*Attachment 3a*)

3b. Motion to approve the contract with each of the Boards of Education for the SBJC to provide 1:1 aide services for the 2024-2025 school year. Full amount of the annual prorated fee shall be charged to each of the Boards of Education.

District	Student ID
Hasbrouck Heights	48451684
Maywood	48451694

3c. Motion to approve the following staff to be added to the substitute list for the 2025-2026 School Year.

Kara Sawransky
 William Hoehl
 Melanie Zywicki - Nurse

3d. Motion to approve the leave of absence for the following, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.

Employee ID#	Position	Effective Dates
1264	Occupational Therapist	2/23/26 - 6/16/26 (adjusted)
0824	Occupational Therapist	1/29/26 - 6/30/26 (adjusted)
1256	Paraprofessional	3/10/26 - 4/1/26
1365	Behavior Specialist	2/27/26 - 3/11/26

3e. Motion to accept the resignation of the following personnel:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Purpose
Paige Cassetta	Paraprofessional	3/14/26	Resignation
Karen Pace	Paraprofessional	7/1/26	Retirement

3f. Motion to approve Daysi Sanchez, Paraprofessional to change from full-time status to part-time status effective February 4, 2026.

3g. Motion to approve the following students to complete clinical/student teaching/classroom observation hours at the South Bergen Jointure Commission as a requirement of their college.

Name	College
Keyonna Miller	Essex County College

3h. Motion to accept the rescindment of retirement for Deanna Ketschke.

3i. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel to clubs and activities. The stipend below will be prorated for the period worked.

Name	Position	Club /Sport / Season	Stipend	Effective Dates
Jason Markowski	Teacher	Head Track & Field Coach - Spring	\$4,500.00	4/1/26 - 6/30/26
Nikhil Keys	Paraprofessional	Assistant Track & Field Coach - Spring	\$2,000.00	4/1/26 - 6/30/26
Claudia Balestier	Counselor	8th Grade Advisor (Replacement)	\$1,000.00 (prorated)	1/1/26 - 6/30/26

3j. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel. Salary will be prorated for the period worked.

Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary/Step
Aratingi, Joseph	Paraprofessional	3/16/26	\$24.61 or \$25.73 w/ sub. cert.

3k. Motion to approve the stipend amount of \$2,678.72 to be paid to Angelina Sotiroska for obtaining her BCBA certification. The full amount plus associated costs and/or taxes is being paid by the Little Ferry school district for the rest of the year.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 3. PERSONNEL

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

4. POLICY

Motion: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

4a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB investigations for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's decision to the students' parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents.

25-26-03-Lodi-48451337
 25-26-03-Lodi-48451681
 25-26-03-Lodi-48451663
 25-26-04-Lodi-48451621
 25-26-04-Lodi-48450851
 25-26-01-S.H.-48451169
 25-26-01-S.H.-48450975

4b. Motion to approve the first reading of the following policies and regulations (*Attachment 4b*).

Policy/Regulation #	Policy/Regulation Title
Policy 0142.1	Nepotism □
Policy 1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator □
Policy 1552	Sexual Harassment – Staff □
Regulation 1552	Sexual Harassment – Staff □
Policy 2530	Resource Materials □
Regulation 2530	Resource Materials □
Policy 2535	Library Material □
Regulation 2535	Library Material □
Policy 9130	Public Complaints □

Regulation 9130	Public Complaints	
-----------------	-------------------	---

4c. Motion to approve the abolishment of the following policies and regulations.

Policy/Regulation #	Policy/Regulation Title
Policy 3362	Sexual Harassment
Regulation 3362	Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint Procedure
Policy 4352	Sexual Harassment
Regulation 4352	Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure

4d. Motion to adopt the July 2026 Extended School Year calendar (*Attachment 4d*).

ACTION TAKEN FOR 4. POLICY

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

5. TRANSPORTATION

Motion: Mr. Jack Hurley

Seconded: Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro

- 5a. Motion to approve the attached 2025-2026 RSY Quotes Set 6. (*Attachment 5a*)
- 5b. Motion to approve the attached contract addendums for 25-26 School Year. (*Attachment 5b*)
- 5c. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on route DT259 for Kris Transport for excessive tardiness and violation of N.J.S.A. 18A:39-27. Total penalty is \$803.64 to be deducted from January billing.
- 5d. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on route Q184 for Joshua Tours for failure to provide an aide on route for 27 days. Total penalty is \$7,560.00 to be deducted from January billing.
- 5e. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on route 8107 for Joshua Tours for repeated late arrival at destination school for 1 day. Total penalty is \$580.00 to be deducted from January billing.

- 5f. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on route 8126 for A3 School Transportation for failure to provide an aide on route for 8 days. Total penalty is \$3,952.00 to be deducted from February billing.
- 5g. Motion to approve an agreement with Pittman Public School District for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2025-2026 school year in which SBJC is the host district, as needed. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of out of district, special education, and summer programs.
- 5h. BE IT RESOLVED that the South Bergen Jointure Commission does hereby approve agreements with the following districts for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2026-2027 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of nonpublic, out of district, special education, vocational and summer programs.

Alpine	Becton Regional	Bogota	Carlstadt	Cliffside Park	DCF Office of NJ	Dumont
East Rutherford	Edgewater	Elmwood Park	Emerson	Englewood	Englewood Cliffs	Fair Lawn
Fairview	Fort Lee	Garfield	Gloucester Township	Hackensack	Hasbrouck Heights	High Point Regional
Ho-Ho-Kus	Leonia	Little Ferry	Lodi	Lyndhurst	Maywood	Millstone Township
Moonachie	New Milford	North Arlington	Northern Valley Regional HS	Nutley	Palisades Park	Paramus
Pitman Public	Region I – NWBCSE	Region V – BCSS	Ridgefield Park	Ridgewood	Riverdell Regional	Riverton SD
Rochelle Park	Rutherford	Saddle Brook	Saddle River	South Hackensack	South Plainfield	Upper Township
Wallington	Wayne	Woodridge				

ACTION TAKEN FOR 5. TRANSPORTATION

- Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D’Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.
- Abstain: Mr. A. Albro (5h WR only), Mr. J. DeCorso (5h Lynd only), Mr. F. D’Amico (5h Lodi only), Mr. P. Galasso (5h NM only), Mr. G. Giancaspro (5h RP only), Mr. J. Hurley (5h Ruth only), Mr. D. Kennedy (5h Bogota only), Mr. J. Knipper (5h Moon only), Dr. Y. Lozanski (5h Wall only), Dr. L. Pantoliano (5h SH only), Dr. M. Poidomani (5h Dumont only), Mr. F. Scarafile (5h ER only), Dr. D. Sforza (5h Becton only), Ms. T. Violetti (5h SB only), Dr. S. Yurchak (5h NA only).
- Nayes: None
- Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING

Motion: Mr. Jack Hurley
Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

6a. Motion to approve the Community Use Application agreement between Bergen County Community College (BCCC) and South Bergen Jointure Commission for the use of the BCCC Meadowlands Conference Center from March 24-March 26 for professional development purposes. All fees have been waived by BCCC as part of their Friends of Bergen policy. (*Attachment 6a*)

ACTION TAKEN FOR 6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.
Abstain: None
Nays: None
Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

7. FOOD SERVICE**8. CURRICULUM**

Motion: Mr. Jack Hurley
Seconded: Dr. Yvette Lozanski

8a. Motion to approve the Report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigations, Trainings and Programs Data Collection for the period July 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025. (*Attachment 8a*)

Action taken for 8. Curriculum:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Ms. T. Violetti, Dr. S. Yurchak.
Abstain: None
Nays: None
Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. R. Tomko

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Kennedy spoke of the Budget plan going forward and stated that the Finance Committee will address items questioned by the Board members, and assured them that their concerns would be considered.

10. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kennedy spoke of the Teacher of the Year luncheon coming up and asked the members to be sure to respond to the requests regarding that.

11. NEW BUSINESS**12. INFORMATION ITEMS****ADJOURNMENT****ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile
Seconded: Mr. Jack Hurley

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at **10:16 am.**

ACTION TAKEN FOR ADJOURNMENT Unanimous approval by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary



**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

MARCH 10, 2026

Motion:
Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on March 10, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated March 10, 2026. The items discussed will be made public at the conclusion of the executive session or at a date not determined at this time.

Action taken:

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
CLOSED - MONTHLY MEETING**

Meeting Opened at _____.

Members Present:
Members Absent:
Also Present:

Special Order of Business

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:
Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at _____.

Action taken: